

would have stood with the people of Iran, strongly, bravely, and forthrightly. When they sought to protest the inaccuracies and illegitimacy of the elections in Iran, Ronald Reagan would have America standing with them toe to toe, body to body and person to person, as he did with Solidarity. Where is our Ronald Reagan when we need him?

One of the most monumental celebrations of freedom was on Christmas Day, 1989 in Berlin.

It was in the city of Berlin that seven years earlier Ronald Reagan standing by the wall that then divided the free from the oppressed and stood in front of that wall and he was not afraid to stand up and said, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

Now, in our time, we need a Ronald Reagan to cry out to the oppressors of your people to tear down the wall of tyranny, tear down the wall of oppression, tear down the wall of terrorism, and of slaughter.

On that Christmas Day of 1989 in Berlin the wall had been torn down because brave people like Ronald Reagan and many others were willing to stand with protesters and the oppressed in those communist countries. They weren't afraid to speak out and they weren't afraid to confront. Leonard Bernstein conducted a performance of Beethoven's ninth symphony that day and he called it a "celebration of human freedom." I hope and I pray that you and I will go to Iran together; I hope we can have a celebration of freedom for the people of Iran because a celebration of freedom for Iran will be the celebration of freedom for all of us.

But that day is not going to come about by begging Ahmadinejad to negotiate. It is not going to come about from weakness. Bullies thrive from weakness. Tyrants are encouraged by weakness. They know only one thing: Strength. They must be confronted with America's strength, not America's weakness. America, the world, all of us must make it plain that under no set of circumstances will Ahmadinejad be allowed to have nuclear weapons. That is not negotiable. No discussion. No argument. No debate.

No! No! No, to nuclear weapons!

And instead, I say Yes to freedom, Yes to democracy, Yes to a free press, Yes to freedom for women, Yes to human dignity for Iran and for all of us.

God bless you in your noble pursuit! I stand with you and all freedom loving people stand with you. God bless you.

A GENOCIDE SURVIVOR STORY:  
KEVORK "GEORGE" HAKALMAZIAN

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau, documented at the time, it was a campaign of "race extermination."

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is im-

perative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide Congressional Record Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories (story submitted by Scott Tejerian):

My grandfather, Kevork "George" Hakalmazian, lost his family in the genocide somewhere around age seven. His father was forced to give my grandpa's sister in marriage to the Turkish mayor of their town, Peri. My grandpa never saw his sister again. Shortly after, when my Grandpa's father, Sarkis, was reading the Bible one afternoon in front of their house, Turkish soldiers took him and my grandpa's mother, Oghapar, away. My grandfather never saw them again. My grandpa and the other children of the village, including his older brother Hagop, were rounded up by the soldiers and taken to the nearby river. At the river they were separated by size. My grandpa's nephew, the son of his eldest brother who was already living in the USA, was separated in the group of smaller children away from my grandpa and his brother, Hagop. The smaller children were thrown into the river to drown, except my grandpa's nephew knew how to swim. When the Turkish soldiers saw him swimming, they shot him dead in the water. For the next few years, my grandpa and Hagop were forced to work for a Turkish farm owner. They were his slaves. Eventually, my grandpa and Hagop were rescued by an older cousin, Marderos, who helped them escape to an orphanage in Lebanon. It was there that their eldest brother, Martin, who was living in Chicago at the time, found them and sent for them to come to America. My grandfather arrived in Ellis Island on July 4, 1923. He didn't know his birthday, so for every year after that his birthday was July 4th.

#### CALLING ON JAPAN TO ADDRESS CHILD ABDUCTION CASES

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2010*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1326. It is time to reunite the families torn apart by the abduction and retention of American children in Japan.

In Tennessee, we have personally been affected by this issue. Sadly I have constituents that await the passage of this resolution with high hopes and are eager to see their children returned home.

Without an agreement on international child abduction between the U.S. and Japan, many children are left in limbo between feuding parents. Custodial arrangements are created to provide the optimal environment for children after a divorce. When foreign countries choose to not recognize these agreements, they are harming the well being of the children.

The best and most immediate solution to this issue is for Japan to adopt the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. This agreement protects the rights of both parents while ensuring the health and safety of the children.

A TRIBUTE TO ALVIN G. DAVIS

**HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Alvin G. Davis for being named to the National 4-H Hall of Fame. Alvin is one of 16 honorees from around the country selected to receive this prestigious honor in 2010. Alvin will be the first 4-H Club member from Texas to join the Hall of Fame.

A Post, TX native, Alvin started in the 4-H program in 1939. In 1948, he was the top 4-H boy and National 4-H Leadership Award winner. Alvin has also served as president of the 4-H club at the local, county, district and college levels.

Alvin received a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry from Texas Tech in 1952. While at the university, he was president of the Texas Tech 4-H Club and Texas Tech Rodeo Association. In 1950, he became the director of the first National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association. Alvin was also the first inductee into the Texas Tech Rodeo Hall of Fame.

Along with his commitment to 4-H, Alvin has become a renowned rodeo announcer, poet, writer, and western artist. Several of his sculptures can be found in the collections of presidents, governors, and celebrities. Alvin founded the National Cowboy Symposium and Celebration and has written children's books, poetry books, and a rodeo periodical. In 2002, he was inducted into the National Cowboy Song and Poetry Hall of Fame.

I am enormously appreciative to Alvin for his hard work and for his contributions to promoting cowboy culture. On behalf of the 19th Congressional District, including myself, I thank Alvin for all of his time and effort to preserve the values, honor, and respect of the American Cowboy and congratulate him on joining the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF MR.  
SAM WOLF

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the distinguished career and significant regional contributions of Mr. Sam Wolf.

Sam Wolf, a resident of Granite City, Illinois, served 18 years in the Illinois House of Representatives from 1974 until he retired in 1992. Among his more notable accomplishments during his time in the General Assembly was legislation establishing community college voting sub-districts. This was important to ensure equitable representation of the different geographic areas covered by a community college district.

Sam Wolf has been a strong proponent of Southwestern Illinois College and was a driving force in the establishment of the college's Granite City Campus in 1984. Sam worked to secure funding for the Industrial Technology Center at the Granite City Campus and the development of the Automotive Collision Repair Technology program there. Sam has been